Page 1 of 5

```
Don Howarth, State Bar No. 53783
Suzelle M. Smith, State Bar No. 113992
Jennifer C. Davis, State Bar No. 218306
HOWARTH & SMITH
523 West Sixth Street, Suite 728
Los Angeles, California 90014
Telephone: (213) 955-9400
Facsimile: (213) 622-0791
Email: dhowarth@howarth-smith.com
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
        Attorneys for Defendant
 6
        THE IAMS COMPANY
 7
 8
                                        UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 9
                                     SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
 10
 11
       DIANE SWARBERG, individually and on
                                                                     CASE NO. 07cv0706 JAH(CAB)
       behalf of all others similarly situated.
 12
                                                                     Honorable John A. Houston
                              Plaintiff,
13
             VS.
                                                                     JOINT MOTION FOR EXTENSION
14
                                                                     OF TIME TO FILE RESPONSIVE
       MENU FOODS HOLDING, INC., THE
       IAMS COMPANY, and DOES 1 through
                                                                     PLEADING
15
       100, inclusive,
16
                               Defendants.
17
18
19
20
      ///
21
      ///
22
      ///
23
      ///
24
      ///
25
      ///
26
      ///
27
28
```

Pursuant to CivLR 12.1 of the Local Rules of Practice for United States District Court, Southern District of California, Defendant The Iams Company ("Defendant") and Plaintiff Diane Swarberg ("Plaintiff"), hereby jointly move for an order extending the time for Defendant to file its response to Plaintiff's Complaint. The parties have filed previous joint motions to extend Defendant's time to respond, first until May 29 and again until June 11, which the Court granted. The parties hereby jointly request that the deadline for filing Defendant's First Responsive pleading now be extended from June 11, 2007 to July 31, 2007. Good cause exists for granting an extension. There is a Motion to Stay All Proceedings, filed by Menu Foods Holding, Inc., currently pending before the Court. The hearing on the Motion to Stay was set for May 31, 2007 at 3:00pm. The hearing was vacated by order of the Court and the Motion was taken under submission without oral argument. Since the Court's ruling on the Motion to Stay would govern all parties and proceedings in the case, Defendant seeks a further extension of time to file its responsive pleading until a date after the Court rules on the Motion to Stay. In addition, there was a May 31, 2007 hearing before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation ("MDL Judicial Panel") on several pending Motions for Transfer and Coordination or Consolidation of Related Actions, which if granted would consolidate and transfer this case to another forum. The opportunity to avoid potentially duplicative and unnecessary hearings and efficiently decide this and other cases against the named defendants justifies awaiting the decision from the MDL Judicial Panel before proceeding further in this litigation. The Judicial Panel is expected to issue a decision in July 2007. /// 111 ///

2

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

///

1//

| 1  | For the foregoing reasons, the parties hereto ask for an extension of time for              |   |  |
|----|---|---|--|
| 2  | Defendant The Iams Company to file its first responsive pleading so that it would be due on |   |  |
| 3  | or before July 31, 2007.  |   |  |
| 4  |   |   |  |
| 5  | Dated: June 8, 2007   | HOWARTH & SMITH   |  |
| 6  |   |   |  |
| 7  |   | <u>s/Don Howarth</u><br>Don Howarth                                     |  |
| 8  |   | Attorneys for Defendant The Iams Company                                |  |
| 9  |   |   |  |
| 10 | Dated: June, 2007   | BERDING & WEIL  |  |
| 11 |   |   |  |
| 12 |   | Jeffrey B. Cereghino, Esq.<br>Attorneys for Plaintiff<br>Diane Swarberg |  |
| 13 |   | Diane Swarberg  |  |
| 14 |   |   |  |
| 15 |   |   |  |
| 16 |   |   |  |
| 17 |   |   |  |
| 18 |   |   |  |
| 19 |   |   |  |
| 20 |   |   |  |
| 21 |   |   |  |
| 22 |   |   |  |
| 23 |   |   |  |
| 24 |   |   |  |
| 25 |   |   |  |
| 26 |   |   |  |
| 27 |   |   |  |
| 28 |   |   |  |

| 1  | For the foregoing reasons, the parties hereto ask for an extension of time for              |   |  |
|----|---|---|--|
| 2  | Defendant The Iams Company to file its first responsive pleading so that it would be due on |   |  |
| 3  | or before July 31, 2007.  |   |  |
| 4  |   |   |  |
| 5  | Dated: June, 2007 H   | OWARTH & SMITH                            |  |
| 6  |   |   |  |
| 7  | $\overline{D}$  | on Howarth                                |  |
| 8  | A   | ttorneys for Defendant<br>he Iams Company |  |
| 9  |   |   |  |
| 10 | Dated: June <u>7</u> , 2007   | ERDING & WEIL                             |  |
| 11 |   |   |  |
| 12 | 2   |   |  |
| 13 |   | ttorneys for Plaintiff lang Swarberg      |  |
| 14 | 4   |   |  |
| 15 | 5   |   |  |
| 16 | 5   |   |  |
| 17 | 7   |   |  |
| 18 | 3   ·   |   |  |
| 19 |   |   |  |
| 20 |   |   |  |
| 21 |   |   |  |
| 22 |   |   |  |
| 23 |   |   |  |
| 24 | 1   |   |  |
| 25 | ; ·   |   |  |
| 26 |   |   |  |
| 27 |   |   |  |
| 28 |   |   |  |

## 1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 I certify that on June 8, 2007, I caused the following document: 3 JOINT MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE RESPONSIVE PLEADING to be filed electronically with the Clerk of Court through ECF, and that ECF will send an e-4 5 notice of the electronic filing to the following: 6 Susan Moriarty Hack at hack@higgslaw.com 7 Michael P. Turiello at mturiello@pretzel-stouffer.com 8 I further certify that I caused a copy of the foregoing document and the notice of 9 electronic filing to be mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the following non-ECF 10 participants: 11 Jeffrey B. Cereghino, Esq. Steven R. Weinmann, Esq. 12 BERDING & WEIL LLP 3240 Stone Valley Road West 13 Alamo, California 94507 14 Nicole Dorsky, Esq. Jeremy Gilman, Esq. 15 BENESCH, FRIEDLANDER, COPLAN & ARONOFF LLP 16 200 Public Square #2300 Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2378 17 Priva Jesani, Esq. 18 Edward B. Ruff, III, Esq. PRETZEL & STOUFFER Chartered 19 One Wacker Drive **Suite 2500** 20 Chicago, Illinois 60606 21 Dennis E. Murray, Sr., Esq. John T. Murray, Jr., Esq. 22 Leslie O. Murray, Esq. MURRARY & MURRAY CO., L.P.A. 23 111 East Shoreline Drive P.O. Box 19 24 Sandusky, Ohio 44870 25 Dated: June 8, 2007 s/Don Howarth 26 Don Howarth

27

28